

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 733

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Senator Lowe Finney for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a member of the Senate.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their district and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lowe Finney of Jackson is one such distinguished public servant who served both his constituency and this legislative body with honor and ability; and

WHEREAS, Senator Finney is a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of the 27th Senate District, which currently includes Crockett, Dyer, Lake, Lauderdale, and Madison counties, and was comprised of Madison, Carroll, and Gibson counties from 2006 to 2012; and he served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, Lowe Finney distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of the 27th Senate District, who evinced their firm belief in his abilities as a legislator by electing him to serve two consecutive terms as their senator, a position in which he performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, a member of the 105th through 108th General Assemblies, Lowe Finney is respected by all as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, as an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process, Senator Finney currently renders sterling service as Democratic caucus chairman and as a member of

the Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee, Senate Health and Welfare Committee, and Senate Judiciary Committee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Finney is a strong advocate for women and society's most vulnerable citizens, including the elderly and persons with disabilities; and he is proud of his work in improving health care for senior citizens, reducing the sales tax on food, and providing greater opportunity for young people and veterans to attend college; and

WHEREAS, he was also instrumental in the passage of legislation that enabled Tennessee to claim a \$500 million federal grant to carry out education reforms under the Race to the Top program; and

WHEREAS, Senator Finney is a family man, respected attorney, and community leader, and he proves that citizens can make a difference by being involved in community service and leading by example; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding Christian faith, Lowe Finney is a member of Jackson's First Baptist Church, where he serves as a deacon; and

WHEREAS, Lowe Finney earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Tennessee-Martin and received his Juris Doctorate from Saint Louis University; and

WHEREAS, he formerly served as an instructor at Lane College and Lambuth University; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Senator Finney was honored as the Tennessee County Officials Association's Outstanding State Senator and the Tennessee Forestry Association's Legislator of the Year in 2008; the Northwest Development District Legislator of the Year in 2008, 2009, and 2010; the Southwest Development District Legislator of the Year in 2008 and 2010; the United Way Legislator of the Year in 2009; and a Truman National Security Project Partner in 2011. He also received the SE4A State Aging Impact Award and Tennessee Conservation Voters Environmental Legislative Friend Award in 2010, the Good Guy Award from the Women's Political Collaborative of Tennessee in 2012, and the Making the Difference—Friend of the Jackson Area Center for Independent Living Award in 2013; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, he donates his time and energies as a member of the Ames Plantation Historical Society, the Madison County Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association, the National Rifle Association, the Southwest Tennessee Development District executive committee, the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Gibson County Chamber of Commerce, the Humboldt Chamber of Commerce, the Milan Chamber of Commerce, the Jackson-Madison County Chamber of Commerce, the Committee on Economic Redevelopment, Transportation and Cultural Affairs of the Southern Legislative Conference, the Legislative Arts Caucus, and the Ayers Children's Medical Center community advisory board; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding career as a public servant, Lowe Finney worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents, bringing to his office an honorable bearing and the traditional values of hard work and common sense; and

WHEREAS, having proved himself to be a thoughtful and dedicated leader, Lowe Finney is eager to offer himself for public service in new capacities at the conclusion of his tenure in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, his many civic and professional accomplishments aside, Lowe Finney is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Tiffany, and their son, Paul; and

WHEREAS, Senator Finney also enjoys the love and support of his parents, Amy and Ricky Finney, his sister and brother-in-law, Lauren and Zach Dunlap, and his niece, Emilia Marie Dunlap; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lowe Finney is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized for his exemplary tenure in this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Senator Lowe Finney for his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the Senate, commend him for his countless contributions and many

good works in service of the citizens of the 27th Senate District, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.